11.14.11 DISASTER SERVICES UPDATE

If you would like to learn more about how you can assist communities affected by disaster visit www.serve.gov or http://www.fema.gov/rebuild/recover/howtohelp.shtm. If you would like to learn more about how to prepare your family and or community please visit www.ready.gov.

HURRICANE/TROPICAL STORM IRENE

August 20-August 29th Hurricane Irene wound up by most estimates as one of the top ten most destructive and deadly hurricanes to hit the United States since 1980. While ultimately not as powerful as many had predicted, the storm still killed at least 27 people along its path from the Caribbean to the eastern seaboard. Transportation was shut down all along the east coast, stranding residents and tourists in shelters, airports, and train stations. More than 5.8 million customers lost electricity, thousands of flights were cancelled, flooding washed out roads and destroyed homes, and evacuation orders were issued for hundreds of thousands. Gathered here are pictures from the Hurricane's path. -- Lane Turner

*NEW AmeriCorps NCCC Atlantic Region

November 18th –December 15th

Ten members deployed to Windsor County, VT to assist with flood recovery efforts. These members chose to extend their term of service by volunteering to assist on this project. The team is working on mucking and gutting, mold remediation and debris removal. The team will be completing their work with the Vermont Commission on National and Community Service in the middle of December.

MONTANA FLOODING

In the late spring of 2011, two floods occurred in Musselshell County, on May 26 and June 8. Over 130 families were displaced from their homes and hundreds more were stranded in the countryside due to 55 county roads being washed out during the flooding.

ROUNDUP, MONTANA

*NEW AmeriCorps NCCC Pacific Region

November 4th – December 16th

A team of eleven members deployed to work with Musselshell Valley Community Foundation. During their deployment the team will assist with flood recovery efforts by clearing debris,

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mucking and gutting affected structures and reconstruction efforts. This team will conclude their work on December 16th.

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BAYBORO, NORTH CAROLINA

*NEW AmeriCorps NCCC Southern Region

October 18th – December 10th

One team has been sent to work with Pamlico County Emergency Management to work in rural North Carolina to manage a distribution center and volunteer center to assist the community recover from Hurricane Irene. The team's deployment will end on December 10th.

MISSOURI FLOODING

This spring and summer, Missouri experienced significant flooding contributing to loss of property.

*UPDATE AmeriCorps St. Louis

October 28th – December 31st

Under FEMA Mission Assignment, AmeriCorps St. Louis is working with FEMA and local partners to conduct needs assessments of communities affected by flooding. A major emphasis will be placed on assisting locally-based long-term recovery committees to develop increased capacity. In this respect, AmeriCorps is working with FEMA and the Missouri State Emergency Management Agency and other partners to convene a statewide gathering of all active long-term recovery committees so they may learn from each other's experience and best practices. As needs become clarified, AmeriCorps St. Louis will also assist with the restoration of flood-affected homes and provide other ground support as needed. This deployment is set to end on December 31st.

ALABAMA TORNADOES

AmeriCorps NCCC Southern Region

October 14th - December 8th

Habitat for Humanity Tuscaloosa has ramped up its building efforts in response to the April 27, 2011 tornados. An 11 member NCCC team will focus on leading volunteers in all stages of new home construction.

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AmeriCorps NCCC Southern Region

November 11th – December 8th

A 12 member NCCC team is working with Hale Empowerment and Revitalization Organization (HERO) and Habitat for Humanity of Hale County to build a new home for a family displaced by the April 2011 tornadoes. The team will lead volunteers in all stages of home building.

MISSOURI TORNADO

AmeriCorps St. Louis

AmeriCorps St. Louis continues its deployment of over 5 months to Joplin. AmeriCorps St. Louis has been providing volunteer coordination and hour tracking after the devastating May 22nd tornado took 162 lives in Joplin, MO. The program is focusing their efforts on supplying productive and meaningful work for volunteers to assist homeowners in their recovery, acting as a work site for 150 WIB workers in clerical and debris removal positions, maintaining a volunteer hour and registration database, homeowner request database and accompanying phone banks. Current projects also include moving the volunteer/memorial house, the tree planting project, the trail project around the FEMA housing, etc.

TROPICAL STORM LEE

Tropical Storm Lee was the twelfth named storm and thirteenth system overall of the 2011 Atlantic hurricane season, developing from a broad tropical disturbance over the Gulf on September 1. It was designated as Tropical Storm Lee the next day.

"In Pennsylvania, Tropical Storm Lee is turning out to be much worse than Irene, dropping more rain in some areas than Agnes did in 1972". Bernard Brown, CNCS State Director, PA

TIOGA COUNTY, NEW YORK

AmeriCorps NCCC Southern Region

October 22nd – November 16th

One team of 10 members will muck and gut flooded homes, and assist with processing work orders at the Disaster Reception Center, in Nichols, NY (west of Binghamton). This project is under authority of a FEMA Mission Assignment, in partnership with Tioga County

Spotlight: National Service Programs Recognized for Flood Response and Recovery Work

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Members of the RSVP South Dakota chapter were honored for their flood response and recovery work last week at the Pierre Area Charitable Organization (PACO) Philanthropy Day luncheon. RSVP members planned and implemented a two weekend long sand bag removal campaign after flooding affected their community. These RSVP members trained volunteers in safety, managed volunteers and provided a lunch.

An AmeriCorps NCCC team from the North Central Region was honored, alongside other AmeriCorps Members at a recognition luncheon for their work in Pierre, North Dakota last week. The team was tasked with assisting with needs assessments and gutting and mucking homes. The team worked with Lutheran Social Services of South Dakota and worked in the Pierre and Fort Pierre area.

RESOURCES

Google has partnered with FEMA's Ready.gov for National Preparedness Month to make information about how technology can be used prior to / during a disaster available to first responders and the public. Check out some of these innovative tools by exploring the links below.

National_Preparedness_Month_landing page with new case study videos

Updated Tools and Resources Page with new case studies and templates

Get Tech Ready resource for the public with FEMA and ARC

Blog post with stats on the internet and crises

Campaign blog post
